## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: David Wayne Minnich Group Art Unit: 2152

Serial No.: 10/789,598 Examiner: Hussain, Tauqir

Filed: February 27, 2004 Docket No.: 1322/131

Confirmation No.: 9048

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR EXTENSIBLE LINK LEVEL ALIGNMENT

BETWEEN MODULES IN A DISTRIBUTED PROCESSING SYSTEM

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the subject application as follows.